



South Carolina
Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation



Board of Pharmacy

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Henry D. McMaster
Governor

Emily H. Farr
Director

PUBLIC HEALTH STATE OF EMERGENCY ORDER 2020-BOP-PH-04

ORDER EXTENDING CERTAIN DEADLINES

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, Governor Henry McMaster issued Executive Order No. 2020-08 declaring a public health emergency due to the evolving nature and scope of the public health threat or other risks posed by COVID-19 and the actual and anticipated impacts associated with the same;

WHEREAS, Governor McMaster has issued subsequent Executive Orders in which he has taken additional action to protect the citizens of South Carolina, including Executive Order No. 2020-10, which “authorize[d] and direct[ed] any agency within the undersigned’s Cabinet or any other department within the Executive Branch, as defined by section 1-30-10 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended, through its respective director or secretary, to waive or ‘suspend provisions of existing regulations prescribing procedures for conduct of state business if strict compliance with the provisions thereof would in any way prevent, hinder, or delay necessary action in coping with the emergency,’ [. . .];”

WHEREAS, S.C. Code Ann. § 40-43-82(A)(2) provides that a Pharmacy Technician is valid July one through June thirtieth and is renewable on dates as prescribed by the department with the consent of the Board. This subsection further provides that a pharmacy technician who has failed to properly renew a registration before July first shall immediately cease practice and refrain from performing any duties as a pharmacy technician. Finally, a technician must pay a penalty to reinstate a lapsed registration;

WHEREAS, S.C. Code Ann. § 40-43-90(D) provides that a permit renewal application, including the required fee, must be submitted to the board before June first. If not postmarked before June first, a penalty of fifty dollars must be assessed. For permits not renewed by the expiration date, the board may charge an additional ten dollars a day until the permit is reinstated. A permit which has not been renewed before July first is a lapsed permit. A permit holder who allows a site to operate with a lapsed permit is in violation of Section 40-43-83;

WHEREAS, S.C. Code Ann. § 40-43-110(B) provides that a pharmacist who wishes to renew his license in an active status must submit a renewal application to the board. If mailed, the board must receive the application before April first, including all required fees, data, and certification of acceptable continuing education. If not postmarked before April first, a penalty of fifty dollars must be assessed. S.C. Code Ann. § 40-43-110(D) provides that a license which has not been renewed before May first is a lapsed license. A person who practices pharmacy with a license that has lapsed is practicing without a license. Reinstatement of a lapsed license must be granted upon evidence satisfactory to the board, subject to disciplinary actions for the failure to renew the license within the prescribed period, and payment of the renewal fee and a penalty of fifty dollars and any other required penalty.

WHEREAS, S.C. Code Ann. § 40-43-130(B) provides, in part, that each licensed pharmacist, as a condition of an active status license renewal, shall complete fifteen hours (1.5 CEU's) of American Council on Pharmaceutical Education (ACPE) accredited continuing pharmacy education or continuing medical education (CME), Category I, or both, each license year. S.C. Code Ann. § 40-43-130(B)(G)(1) provides that as a condition of registration renewal, a registered pharmacy technician shall complete ten hours of American Council on Pharmaceutical Education or CME I approved continuing education each year, beginning with the next renewal period after June 30, 2003.

WHEREAS, Section III of the Protocol For Administration of Vaccines by Pharmacists developed pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. § 40-43-200 provides that a pharmacist or pharmacy intern supervised by a pharmacist seeking authorization to administer Vaccines pursuant to this Protocol [. . .] Must complete one of the certification courses listed below, possess a valid course completion card, and the certification must be renewed every 2 years: 1. The American Heart Association BLS for Healthcare Providers Course or 2. The American Red Cross Adult and Pediatric CPR/AED Course;

WHEREAS, the Board finds its licensees, registrants, and permittees must focus all efforts towards treating the patients of South Carolina during this pandemic, without fear of discipline or a lapsed license, registration, or permit for failure to meet administrative deadlines; and

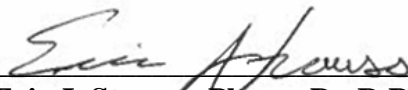
WHEREAS, the Board concludes that it is in the best interests of the citizens of South Carolina to extend all renewal deadlines, as well as the deadlines to complete continuing education requirements and CPR recertification, as set forth below.

NOW, THEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, effective immediately, the Board hereby orders as follows:

1. The deadline for the renewal of all pharmacist licenses shall be extended from to April 30th to June 30th;
2. The deadlines for the renewal of all pharmacy technician registrations shall be extended from June 30th to July 31st;
3. The deadline for the renewal of all facility permits shall be extended from June 30th to July 31st;
4. Pharmacists whose CPR certification expires between the date of this Order and June 30th (the extended renewal deadline) may continue administering vaccinations through June 30th, but must recertify prior to July 1st to continue administering vaccinations thereafter.
5. The deadline for completion of continuing education requirements for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians shall be extended to the respective new licensure/registration renewal deadline, as set forth above.
6. No penalties or additional fees shall be imposed or assessed for license, registrations, and permits renewed by the respective deadlines set forth above.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY


Eric J. Strauss, Pharm.D., R.Ph.
Board Chair

March 23, 2020